

1. (Twice Amended) A method for providing a system for high fidelity reproduction of the sound of a selected type of acoustic instrument, the method comprising:

- (1) placing a first microphone at a selected location proximate to the acoustic musical instrument;
- (2) separately playing the musical instrument to produce sounds as picked up by the first microphone;
- (3) playing reference sounds of the instrument;
- (4) comparing the sounds of the musical instrument as picked up by the first microphone with the reference sounds directly from [of] the instrument; and
- (5) designing a tailor-made equalizer for the first microphone to compensate for the differences between the sounds as picked up by the microphone and the reference sounds directly from [of] the instrument.

6. (Amended) A method for providing a system for high fidelity reproduction of the sound of a selected type of acoustic musical instrument, the method comprising:

- (1) placing a first microphone to a selected location proximate to the acoustic musical instrument;
- (2) positioning a reference second microphone at a listening site spaced from the acoustic musical instrument;
- (3) playing the musical instrument to produce sounds as picked up by the first microphone, and to produce reference sounds of the instrument as picked up directly by the reference second microphone;
- (4) making [simultaneous] first and second audio recordings of the sounds of the

musical instrument as picked up by the respective first and second microphones;

(5) comparing the first and second audio recordings to determine the audio differences between the recordings; and

(6) designing a tailor-made equalizer for the first microphone to compensate for the differences of the first sound recording from the second sound recording.

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13. (Twice Amended) A system for high fidelity electronic reproduction of the sound of an acoustic musical instrument, the system comprising:

a microphone element adapted to be placed proximately to a preselected type of acoustic musical instrument; and

an equalizer having an input coupled to the microphone, the equalizer including a particular arrangement of a predetermined minimum number of electronic filter circuits and controls, with optimized control ranges needed to compensate for differences in the electronic reproduction by the microphone element of sounds from the preselected type of acoustic musical instrument to be input to the microphone element, compared with corresponding [references] reference sounds directly from said type of musical instrument.

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16. (Twice Amended) A method for providing a system for high fidelity reproduction of the sound of acoustic musical instruments, the method comprising:

(1) placing a first microphone at a selected location proximate to a first one of said acoustic musical instruments;

(2) placing a second microphone at a selected location from said first one of said acoustic musical instruments;